VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

VILLAGE COUNCIL
MELANIE ROSE WHITE, Mayor
MICHAEL J. DORSEY, Chairman
JOHN R. MERTENS, Vice Chairman
PA ULA DURBIN, Secretary
KATHLEEN COOPER, Treasurer
CAROLINA ZUMARÁN-JONES, Parliamentarian
ALEXANDRA KIELTY, Historian

JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, Village Manager

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APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

December 10, 2018 ·

ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; Michael J. Dorsey, Chairman; John R. Mertens, Vice Chairman; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; Carolina Zumaran-Jones, Parliamentarian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; and 5 residents.

ABSENT:

Paula Durbin, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dorsey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNCIL:

The Council heard questions and concerns from members of the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. White announced the annual New Year's Day Open House at the Village Center on Tuesday, January 1, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. White moved, Ms. Zumaran-Jones seconded, to approve the minutes of the Council's public session of November 19. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summary for the period ending November 30, 2018.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from the Community Advisory Committee: Ms. White reported that the Community Advisory Committee met on December 6 and discussed the following:

- (1) The need to make minor repairs on several flag poles in our parks (broken ropes):
- (2) Concerns that the approach to renovations in Page Park is perceived as "piecemeal," indicating that the Council does not have a clear idea or comprehensive design;
- (3) The success of the book club at the Village Center;
- (4) The need to replace a large hedge to fill the space by the parking pad.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 9, at 5:30 p.m.

Report from Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights: Ms. White reported that the CCCFH met on November 28 and discussed the following:

- (1) The Regency Westbard project;
- (2) Proposed improvements to the Capital Crescent Trail Crossing to be voted on by Montgomery County residents. Ms. White will forward the link upon request.
- (3) The plan to purge the CCCFH member list.
- (4) A report by Harry Pfohl, head of the CCCFH, that he testified before the Montgomery County Planning Board regarding the County's proposal to remove the tiny house, former utility building, at the corner of River Road and Willard Avenue and to incorporate that land into Willoughby Park. Per Pfohl, Casey Anderson, Head of the County Planning Board, said plans are still in place to remove the tenant from the house at 5320 Willard Avenue and to incorporate that land as well into Willoughby Park. The next meeting will be during the third week of January at 8:00 at the little house in Westmoreland Hills in Bethesda. Minutes will be posted on the Village website.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dockless Vehicle Presentation/Discussion: Sande Brecher, Chief of Commuter Services for the County Department of Transportation, gave a brief presentation on the County's proposal to expand its pilot program providing electronic bikes and scooters for public use into the Bethesda-Chevy Chase area. Questions and concerns from the Council and audience were addressed.

As previously reported, the County has asked local jurisdictions if they would like to opt into the program. If the Village decides not to opt in, vehicle users would not be permitted to end a trip or park the vehicle on Village streets or sidewalks. The Council agreed to discuss this matter at its public session in January.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Dorsey adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Durbin